

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (amended) A tag for use in a system for monitoring the presence of an individual within a defined area, said system including attachment means for attaching the tag to the individual, receiving means positioned within said defined area for receiving identification signals generated by said tag, and processing means coupled to said receiving means for noting the time of receipt of the received identification signals, from which time information a determination can be made as to the presence or absence of the individual within the defined area during any given time period, said tag comprising:

a first power source,

sensing means for sensing a plurality of prescribed tamper conditions associated with the operation and use of said tag, and

means coupled to said first power source for transmitting an identification signal, said identification signal including identification information that uniquely identifies said tag, and hence the individual to whom the tag is attached, and status information that indicates the prescribed conditions sensed by said sensing means.

Kindly amend claim 2 as follows:

2. (amended) The tag of claim 1 wherein the plurality of prescribed tamper conditions sensed by said sensing means include whether the tag has remained attached to the individual.

Please amend claim 7 as indicated below:

7. (amended) A tag for use with an individual monitoring system comprising  
a self-contained power source;  
circuit means coupled to said power source for periodically generating an encoded signal, said encoded signal including identification information and status information; [and]

sensing means for sensing when said tag is held near human flesh; and

mode control means for allowing said circuit means to selectively operate in one of a plurality of operating modes;

said status information including an indication of whether said tag is being held near human flesh[.]; and

said mode control means including switch means responsive to the application of an external force, and wherein said operating modes include;

an off mode, wherein no external force  
has yet been applied, and the circuit means of said tag is  
disabled, thereby conserving the energy of said self-  
contained power source,

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a start-up/test mode, initiated by  
applying and maintaining said external force, during which  
said circuit means is enabled and operates in a test mode  
that allows operation of the tag to be verified, and

a normal run mode, initiated upon  
removal of the external force, during which said circuit  
means generates said encoded signal at prescribed intervals.

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Kindly amend claim 10 by making it dependent upon  
--claim 7-- rather than "claim 9"; and change "mode", on  
line 1 of claim 10, to --modes--.

Please amend claim 11 to make it dependent upon  
--claim 7-- rather than "claim 9".

In claim 12, kindly change "capitance" on line 3, to  
--capacitance--.

In line 4 of claim 17, please change "repetative" to  
--repetitive--.

Kindly cancel claims 8, 9, and 13.